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What is chaplaincy?

Chaplains provide spiritual/pastoral, emotional, religious, and ethical care in primarily secular institutions. These institutions include (but are not limited to) schools, hospitals, the military, companies, universities, prisons, nursing homes, fire stations, first responder settings, and even shipping crews. There is no commonly agreed-upon definition for what chaplains do. A chaplain’s responsibilities vary by sector and place of employment.

Chaplaincy Requirements & Certification

Most organizations that employ chaplains require specific training and certification including a relevant master's degree, supervised clinical training, and endorsement from the chaplain's religious group. Healthcare institutions and the military require certification from the Board of Chaplaincy Certification Inc. (BCCI) which requires a M.Div. or equivalent. Federal chaplaincy positions require 1-4 units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). Private schools, colleges and universities tend to prefer ordination in a religious tradition and generally favor contextual education in a higher education setting. However, this differs by school and tradition. Chaplains are employed in many other contexts and formal requirements, compensation, and responsibilities vary widely.

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is interfaith pastoral care training for theological students, and is required to become a board-certified chaplain. CPE is designed to bring theological students into supervised encounters with patients and families in crisis. ACPE-certified CPE is offered in many settings, including hospitals, universities, hospices, workplace settings, rehabilitation centers and psychiatric facilities.

The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education’s standards requires a minimum of 100 course hours and 300 hours of clinical time for each unit of CPE.
Chaplaincy is on the rise

"The Rise of Chaplains" by Wendy Cadge
This article gives an overview of the field of chaplaincy since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Chaplaincy Innovation Lab supports research, training, and the provision of spiritual care in a range of settings. The lab hosts data on profession, provides practical tools, and offers educational resources for spiritual care providers.

ACPE is the premier organization that provides CPE programs for spiritual care professionals of any faith in any setting. The ACPE accredits and certifies centers and educators that provide CPE.

Beginner's Guide to Spiritual Care eBook
A comprehensive eBook and series of webinars provide information for those considering work as a spiritual care provider.
The following list provides chaplaincy-related courses, resources, and degree programs at schools in the Boston Theological Interreligious Consortium. We welcome updates and additional information to add to this list. This list was last updated in August 2021.

**BTI Certificate in Religion and Conflict Transformation**
- [Certificate Information](#)

**Boston College School of Theology & Ministry**
- [Pastoral Studies Courses](#)

**Boston University School of Theology**
- [Master of Divinity (M.Div.), Chaplaincy Track](#)
- [Ministry in Church and Society Courses](#)
- [Pastoral Psychology and Psychology of Religion Courses](#)
- [Practical Theology Courses](#)

**Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary**
- [Advanced standing for military chaplains in their Doctor of Ministry program](#)
- [Pastoral Care/Psychology Courses](#)

**Harvard Divinity School**
- [Buddhist Chaplaincy: Spiritual Foundations in Caregiving Practice Course](#)
- [Spirituality and Healing in Medicine Course Counseling for Wellness and Resilience: Fostering Relational Wisdom Course](#)
- [Resource page for students pursuing chaplaincy](#)

**Hebrew College**
- [Rabbinical Program Curriculum](#)

**Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School**
- [Master of Divinity](#)

**Saint John's School of Theology and Seminary**
- [National Association of Catholic Chaplains’ Information on the Seminary and Accepted Program](#)
The ACPE is the only agency recognized by the United States Department of Education to accredit programs of Clinical Pastoral Education in the United States. ACPE certified educators are individuals who are qualified to be CPE supervisors. For a full directory of accredited ACPE centers, go to: https://profile.acpe.edu/accreditedcpedirectory

The following CPE centers in the City of Boston have received ACPE accreditation:

- **Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center**
  330 Brookline Ave, Boston, MA 02215

- **Boston Medical Center**
  One Boston Medical Center Pl, Boston, MA 02118

- **Brigham and Women’s Hospital**
  75 Francis St, Boston, MA 02115

- **Massachusetts General Hospital**
  55 Fruit St, Boston, MA 02114

- **Hebrew SeniorLife/Hebrew Rehabilitation Center**
  1200 Centre St, Roslindale, MA 02131
Program Emphasis

- Organic, step-by-step orientation and preparation process for each new CPE-student
- Assignment of an experienced staff chaplain as personal mentor
- Emphasis on solid skill and tool-building through a wide array of didactics by multi-disciplinary lecturers
- Custom-tailored individual teaching process for each student
- Encouragement of focus on deepening the understanding of both patient and self
- Active support for diverse patient population regarding spirituality, race, social status, sexual orientation, gender, age and ability
- Careful spiritual assessment and appropriate/supportive interventions for our patients
- Balancing good patient care with good self-care
listening and responding skills
spiritual assessment
grief & grieving
spiritual care for Jewish, Catholic, Muslim, Buddhist and Non-Religious Patients
medical bioethics
palliative care
Cultural Sensitivity
Raising Race-Awareness: Recognizing Implicit Bias, Systemic Racism & Anti-Black Racism in Healthcare
Spiritual Care with Behavioral Health Patients
Working with Patients Suffering from Addiction
Trauma & Trauma Informed Healthcare
Moral Injury and Healing
Resilience

What makes this site unique?

Unique and Distinctive Aspects of BIDMC as a CPE Site

- Harvard Teaching Hospital
- "Human First" (hospital motto)
- Deeply ingrained caring philosophy at the root of the hospital that was created from two religious institutions
- Young, diverse, engaged & caring chaplain team
- Busy medical center that offers refuge to a wide array of medically diverse patients from child-birth to end-of-life
- A CPE-program that is supported by and well-integrated into the hospital
Anton Boisen, generally considered the founder of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), recognized a gap between the language of theology and the human experience of meaning-making, i.e., how people understand and interpret their life, life events and relationship with others and the sacred. Drawing on his own experience of hospitalization, he was concerned that theological language in general and pastoral theology in specific had lost connection with lived human experience. His proposal for teaching pastoral ministry was to make lived human experience as important as what was being learned in theological texts. Rather than a prescribed or standard set of pastoral responses, Boisen writes, “I have sought to begin not with the ready-made formulations contained in books but with the living human documents and with actual social conditions in all their complexity.”

Focusing on the “living human document” raised the lived human experience of both patients and chaplains to a level equal to “books” or theory, and illustrates a clinical paradigm that emphasizes an individualistic sense of self as the main source of insight into human personality. Boisen wisely located the “living human document” within “actual social conditions in all their complexity.” Perhaps, if Boisen were writing today, in a world in which income inequality, and racial, gender, and health disparities are ever more glaring, he would have included a more systemic and structural explanation of “social conditions,” and how social determinants of health and structural violence impact a person’s health and spiritual well-being.

Boston Medical Center is a hospital where students meet patients with “social conditions in all their complexity.” The original mission of Boston City Hospital, now Boston Medical Center (BMC), was to provide medical care for all children and adults regardless of insurance status, race, ethnicity, or any other societal barrier to health. That original mission continues to this day. Nearly 70% of Boston Medical Center’s patients come from underserved populations, including low-income families and immigrants who rely on government payers such as Medicaid, the Health Safety Net, and Medicare for their coverage; 32% do not speak English as a primary language. BMC is the largest and busiest provider of trauma and emergency services in New England.

Racial, ethnic, sexual and gender disparities in health care have been well documented, with data showing that members of minority groups suffer disproportionately from cardiovascular disease, diabetes, asthma, and cancer, among other conditions. The prolonged and generational impact of systemic oppression (including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, etc.) contribute to these disparities and create social determinants of health inequity leading to socioeconomic disadvantages, lower levels of education, jobs with higher rates of occupational hazards, communities with greater environmental hazards such as air pollution, crowded living conditions, gun violence, etc.
These inequities became glaringly obvious during the COVID-19 pandemic in which African American and Latinx patients were infected and died at disproportionate rates. According to the Boston Public Health Commission, over 76% of confirmed cases of the pandemic in the Boston area were members of racial and ethnic minorities. These men and women, the essential workers who didn’t have the luxury and privilege of working from home and who needed to rely on public transportation to and from work, have been the ones to endure the most suffering and death from COVID-19.

The history, context and patient population of Boston Medical Center requires educational theories that give primacy to social and cultural aspects of what it means to be human. Educators such as Paulo Freire and Parker Palmer, and liberation psychologist, Ignacio Martín-Baró, attend to these aspects of humanity that inform and contribute to ways of meaning-making. These adult models of education are contextual, empowering and offer the potential for transformation, both of the student and society.

A common theme present in both Freire and Palmer, the many educators they’ve inspired, and in liberation theologians, is that of remembering. In an address to the 1987 ACPE convention, Parker Palmer noted that the word “remember” means to, “Re-member…It means to put the body back together.” In contrast, the opposite of remembering is not necessarily forgetting, it is to “dis-member.”

As the city’s most racially, ethnically, linguistically and religiously diverse hospital, students quickly learn in their pastoral visits that many patients at Boston Medical Center feel “dis-membered” by living in a society that tears them apart by micro and macro aggressions of racism, sexism, and other systemic sins; or tears them apart from one another by immigration laws or by working two and three-part time jobs to make ends meet. Whole communities are torn apart by addiction, gun violence, and histories of intergenerational trauma. Therefore, inherent in the curriculum is to learn theory and skills that “re-member” our patients.

Given the well described racial and ethnic disparities in health care, chaplains learn how to listen deeply and understand how formative and ongoing experiences of suffering, and trauma often generated by systemic racism and other systems of oppression affect a person’s health and spiritual wellbeing. Didactics such as listening skills and spiritual assessment are embedded in the context of didactics on social determinants of health, Substance/Alcohol Use Disorder and Motivational Interviewing. The didactics are approached from a trauma informed spiritual care perspective to mitigate re-traumatizing patients and to increase knowledge about trauma, understand systems of inequity and to understand what it means to take a step toward dignity and justice in spiritual care.
Didactics

Emotional World of the Patient
1. Let’s Look at an Old Verbatim
2. Who is the Chaplain? Power Dynamics and Boundaries
3. Listening Skills
4. Spiritual Assessment
5. Intro to Biomedical Ethics
6. Trauma: Part I, Intro to Trauma
7. Trauma: Part II, Trauma and Substance/Alcohol Use Disorder: the Complex Relationship
8. Trauma: Part III, Trauma Informed Pastoral Care: An Introduction to Internal Family Systems and Resilience
9. Intersectionality: Factors of Race, Gender, Sexuality and Class in Pastoral Care
10. Substance Use Disorder
11. Motivational Interviewing
12. Loss and Grief
13. Shame: the Toxic Emotion

Educational Experiences

Boston Medical Center is located in an ethnically, racially, socioeconomically and religiously diverse community of Boston. Educational Experiences are designed to introduce students to the community that BMC serves. They may include: Tour of Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center; Tour of Vietnamese Buddhist Temple; Tour of Chinese Buddhist Temple; Tour of HealthCare for Homeless program; Tour of BMC Preventative Food Pantry and Teaching Kitchen.
In a 2020 survey of our alumni, we asked “What would you say is the greatest strength of the Brigham & Women's CPE program?” Many students commented on the areas of our program that might be different from other CPE sites:

- Two strengths of the BWH CPE program are the warm, caring, competent, and collaborative people in the Spiritual Care Department and the organizational culture of BWH which values transparency and teamwork and values contributions any member of the organization can make. My experience on the floors was that the medical staff respected and valued Spiritual Care, reading our notes, and eager to talk with us; I think this kind of collaboration on a care team is a rare gift."

- “I remember the people I met, especially my fellow students. I take away wonderful relationships from this experience, unlike other settings, because of the challenging environment. I learned so much from my smart colleagues when they were prepared to openly struggle for their learning."

- “Between the on-call experiences, and the experiences on the floor, I was exposed to a wide variety of situations, patients, and needs that I doubt I would have seen in other settings and I definitely don’t see in my current setting. The diversity of my small group was also a strength, as was my supervisor. “

- I felt like I was treated as a trusted colleague who had the skills necessary to handle the issues that would arise in the hospital. The trust that Brigham's CPE program placed in myself and the other interns really made my experience of CPE stand out from my colleagues who enrolled in different programs.”

- “It rarely felt like we were “interns,” but rather part of the spiritual care team, really stepping into a chaplain role. I deeply appreciate how much the staff chaplains got to know the interns and offer wisdom. I see spiritual care as deeply valued as part of the hospital in a way that is not always valued at some of the hospitals where I have served.”
Like most CPE programs, the verbatim is a central element of our curriculum to help students put the Action-Reflection-Action model into practice. Many of our units include an optional case presentation that allows for creativity/alternative formats for a case presentation (often referred to as “a special”). Students will also complete seven or eight Spiritual Reflection essays that help integrate their own beliefs/cultural/personal background into the multi-faith, multi-cultural milieu they encounter at Brigham & Women’s. Students will participate in a Cultural-Location seminar in which each student and the faculty members will present about their own culture. This format allows for students to hear both similarities and differences within and between cultures. Webinars, BWH town hall discussions, and other structured discussions allow students to deeply explore the impact of race and racism on one’s own life and the lives of those encountered at the bedside. The Explore Your Experience (EYE) open process group provides a forum for integrating learning and exploring elements that influence one’s ability to claim authority in a variety of contexts.

What makes this site unique?

The Spiritual Care Services department recently celebrated 50-years of care at Brigham & Women’s Hospital. This video speaks to the development and importance of Spiritual Care at Brigham & Women’s Hospital as well the importance of the CPE program.

HEBREW SENIORLIFE/HEBREW REHABILITATION CENTER

SUPERVISOR: RABBI BETH NADITH, REV. MARY MARTHA THIEL

Program Emphasis

Hebrew SeniorLife provides housing and healthcare to older adults across eight sites in the Boston area. HSL’s CPE program focuses on spiritual care of elders from Jewish perspectives. Relationships with patients/residents are long-term, rather like those in a congregation.

Some of our teaching specialty areas are trauma informed care, spiritual care of the nonreligious, spiritual care of the dying, spiritual care of LGBT elders, and spiritual generalist skills for non-chaplain members of healthcare teams.

Hebrew SeniorLife offers summer intensive and academic year extended (part-time) units. We often provide one year-long, full-time, stipended position for a person to complete two units of CPE and focus their clinical work on LGBTQ chaplaincy, education, and advocacy. Beginning Summer 2021 is a new, non-stipended sequential curriculum of two (and optional three) units for one cohort of students, allowing for deeper learning than is possible in a single unit.

Additional Training Topics

In addition to the specialties mentioned above:
- Jewish text study
- Aging in America
- Spiritual care of the dying and their families
- Bereavement care
- Spiritual care of persons with dementia
- Spiritual care of persons with mental illness
- Milieu chaplaincy
- Jewish liturgy at the bedside
- Lament as a voice in chaplaincy
- Praying as part of spiritual care
- Narrative ethics
- End of life ethics, secular and Jewish
- Spiritual assessment
- Documenting a chaplain’s visit
- Clinical theological reflection
- Offering spiritual care across religious/spiritual traditions
- Support of staff
- Experience of religious/spiritual/existential themes, such as: God/The Sacred, Suffering, Oppression, Gender, Sexual Orientation, Meaning-Making
- Preparation for certification as a professional chaplain
Because of our patient populations, there is no on-call, evening/night, or weekend coverage required of chaplain interns.

Our program calendar follows the Jewish calendar and Shabbat observance, and our cafeterias offer kosher food.

Free parking is available on both campuses. A shuttle bus from the Forest Hills T stop to NewBridge is available. Roslindale is on a city bus line.

Patients and staff come from diverse backgrounds and religious/spiritual traditions.

Hebrew SeniorLife is affiliated with Harvard Medical School and is host to many professional education programs, of which CPE is one.
Serve in every specialty and subspecialty of medicine and surgery
Specialize in clinical services such as Palliative Care, Oncology, Cardiac Care, Neurosciences, Solid Organ Transplant, Psychiatry, Pediatrics
Gain experience in an urban, academic level I trauma center
Learn using cutting edge techniques in Clinical Pastoral Education
Be part of a strong and diverse Spiritual Care Department

**Program Emphasis**

**CPE Students at MGH will:**

- Serve in every specialty and subspecialty of medicine and surgery
- Specialize in clinical services such as Palliative Care, Oncology, Cardiac Care, Neurosciences, Solid Organ Transplant, Psychiatry, Pediatrics
- Gain experience in an urban, academic level I trauma center
- Learn using cutting edge techniques in Clinical Pastoral Education
- Be part of a strong and diverse Spiritual Care Department
The Rev. Alice Cabotaje, MDiv., BCC, ACPE Certified Educator

The Rev. Alice Cabotaje is the Director of Spiritual Care and Clinical Pastoral Education at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). She is an ACPE Certified Educator and a Board-Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains. Alice is ordained and endorsed by the Metropolitan Community Churches, which was founded in the 1960s to minister to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities. Along with being grounded in the Christian faith, Alice underwent training and studies in the yogic tradition under a Calcutta-based guru for 18 years. Over the last 15 years, she has been practicing Zen under the guidance of a Zen master in the Sanbo Kyodan (Harada-Yasutani) lineage. She holds a Master of Divinity from the Pacific School of Religion of the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, and a BA in Philosophy from the University of the Philippines.

Rabbi Shulamit Izen, MAHL, BCC, ACPE Certified Educator

Rabbi Shulamit Izen is an Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) Certified Educator and a Board-Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains. Shulamit completed her ACPE educator training at the Cleveland Clinic (2015-2018). Prior to her time in Cleveland, Shulamit worked in Boston as a chaplain at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and as a rabbi/chaplain for Hebrew SeniorLife. Shulamit holds rabbinic ordination from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (2013), where she specialized in issues related to aging and Judaism. She has a BA in Religion from Brown University (2007). Shulamit is delighted to return to MGH, and to share her passion for transformative spiritual care education.
The ACPE is the only agency recognized by the United States Department of Education to accredit programs of Clinical Pastoral Education in the United States. ACPE certified educators are individuals who are qualified to be CPE supervisors. For a full directory of accredited ACPE centers, go to: https://profile.acpe.edu/accreditedcpedirectory

The following CPE centers in the Boston Area have received ACPE accreditation:

**Baystate Medical Center**
759 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01199

**Beverly Hospital of Beth Israel Lahey Health**
85 Herrick Street, Beverly, MA 01915

**Holy Family Hospital**
70 East Street, Methuen, MA 01844

**McLean Hospital**
115 Mill Street, Mailstop 302, Belmont, MA 02478

**Saint Anne’s Hospital**
795 Middle Street, Fall River, MA 02721
Our CPE program takes place within the department of Spiritual Services which means that staff chaplains are involved in the students' learning, providing opportunities for shadowing, collaboration on patient cases, and joint visits. The students benefit from the integration of staff chaplains in patient care areas.

We emphasize team-work, collaboration within the chaplain team and inter-professional teams on the units.

We integrate students into the department team including participation in department projects and conversations.

We foster a culture of collaboration, courage and mutual support.

The composition of our groups is regularly diverse, including a mix of lay people, academically trained religious leaders, students of theology/divinity, and people in a second career or without formal theological training.

We have a close connection to the interfaith community in the wider Springfield area and utilize their programs as curriculum content in addition to offering individual students the opportunity to participate in local book groups or interfaith gatherings.
Training Topics

The ACPE anti-racism curriculum material and Baystate resources are used to address social determinants of health. Behavioral health resources are also used to address trauma in childhood.

We use an individualized approach to students' learning styles and link the CPE educational process to a students' future ministry setting, addressing questions such as, how do you apply what you learn in CPE (in the clinical environment, in group etc.) to your ministry setting?

The utilization of creative expression through poetry, fiction, film etc. are encouraged to support self-awareness, relational awareness and social spiritual consciousness.

Students are educated on offering staff support and facilitating debriefs.

What makes this site unique?

Our children’s hospital includes Pediatric Behavioral Health, Pediatric Intensive Care, and a Neonatal unit. The hospital is part of a health system that is independent, community based which informs the culture of the employees and patients and is not linked to a larger national health system.

Our health system serves a range of socio-economic rural and urban communities, including patients in the Berkshires, Southern Vermont, Central and Western Massachusetts, areas of Connecticut, and the cities of Northampton, Amherst, and Springfield.

We have a strong commitment to health equity and addressing racial disparities in health care.
Beverly Hospital is a community hospital – from birth to death, from generation to generation, this is the loved and trusted hospital people go to for their healthcare on the north shore of Massachusetts. Staff members are usually long-time north shore residents themselves, often with generations of family ties to the story of Beverly Hospital. The experience of the deep personal connection patients and staff have to the story of their community hospital is an important and transformative learning experience all on its own.

There is no shortage of clinical experience at Beverly Hospital. CPE students can count on meeting with patients and their loved ones across the entire spectrum of acute care – including emergency medicine, intensive and medical/surgical care units, behavioral health units, obstetrics, special care nursery and pediatrics. Over the course of the unit, CPE students will provide spiritual care for patients and their loved ones from all walks of life, in every imaginable acute health care circumstance.

Spiritual Care is highly valued and respected at Beverly Hospital. Students can count on knowing and being known and welcomed by staff in a short period of time. Among the hospital staff are a number of Professional Advisory Group members who are available for support and consultation. Beverly Hospital is a kind and welcoming learning environment.
One of the most distinct curricular features that makes the Beverly Hospital CPE program special is the opportunity afforded students to experience the acute health care setting, while also establishing longer term relationships in other settings. Students are typically assigned one off-site placement where they will spend approximately two hours per week, working with the site preceptor and Certified Educator to design and offer spiritual care appropriate to the population served at that setting.

**Addison Gilbert Hospital Gorton's Specialty and Cancer Care Center**: The Gorton's Specialty and Cancer Care Center offers convenient, local access to first-class cancer and specialty care at Addison Gilbert Hospital in Gloucester, furthering the hospital's commitment to bringing high quality health care to the Cape Ann community. The Center is designed to meet the physical, emotional, spiritual, and social needs of individuals who are undergoing cancer treatment and other cancer-related care. It offers a comfortable, private setting with plenty of room for visitors to offer support during treatment. The décor reflects the serene beauty of the Cape Ann community, featuring an ocean-like color scheme, scalloped and waved edges throughout, and views of the Annisquam River to bring a sense of nature, comfort and community to the patient care space. Location: Addison Gilbert Hospital, Gloucester, MA

**Senior Adult Unit at Addison Gilbert Hospital**: The Senior Adult Unit (SAU) provides inpatient care to the elderly who have experienced a sudden change in mental status or who are experiencing an acute phase of a chronic disability or mood disorder. Such changes result in behaviors which may place them at risk in their homes or community-based settings. The Senior Adult Unit is an ACE (Acute Care of the Elderly) program which aims to improve clinical outcomes by providing multidisciplinary care in a safe and comfortable environment. The SAU team is trained in the specialized care of the elderly and, as a result, Addison Gilbert Hospital is designated a NICHE (Nurses Improving Care of Healthsystem Elders) site; one of only eleven in Massachusetts. Location: Addison Gilbert Hospital, Gloucester, MA

**Bay Ridge Hospital**: Bay Ridge Hospital provides accessible, high-quality substance abuse and mental health treatment. This psychiatric hospital offers a continuum of chemical dependency and psychiatric services on an inpatient, partial hospitalization and outpatient basis. Coordination of care between Beverly Hospital's psychiatric service, the Leland Unit, and Bay Ridge Hospital assures the provision of a range of acute inpatient services to individuals suffering from psychiatric disabilities. Location: 60 Granite Street, Lynn, MA
Care Dimensions: For more than 35 years, Care Dimensions has been a driving force in expanding access to hospice and palliative care in Massachusetts. Today, Care Dimensions is the largest hospice in Massachusetts and we offer a continuum of clinical care for adult and pediatric patients with advanced and life-limiting illnesses and provide support for their families and caregivers. (Site placement is offered to Level II students after specific orientation required by Care Dimensions.)
Location: Danvers, MA

The Grace Center: In the winter of 2009, the Cape Ann Clergy Association recognized an increasing number of requests for help from low-income and homeless adults. A Needs Assessment Study identified a number of pressing needs including the absence of a safe day space for people experiencing homelessness in Gloucester. While we are proud to get to know and encourage individuals currently experiencing homelessness, we also continue to welcome the many older adults, lonely community members, or those at high risk of or currently experiencing crisis. All services are free.
Location: Unitarian Universalist Church, Gloucester, MA

Herrick House: The Herrick House is an assisted living community, offering 86 private apartments in a secluded, picturesque setting, located on the upper campus of Beverly Hospital in Beverly, Massachusetts. In addition to Assisted Living, The Herrick House also offers Respite Stay Options and also offers a specialized Spectrum Memory Care program designed for residents who suffer from cognitive impairment, including those who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or other memory impairments.
Location: 89 Herrick Street, Beverly (North Campus of Beverly Hospital)

Harborlight Community Partners - Turtle Creek and Turtle Woods: Turtle Creek and Turtle Woods, founded by First Baptist Church in Beverly in 1983 and 1996 respectively, form an affordable living community for 200 low and moderate-income seniors. Residents enjoy one or two bedroom apartments with modern amenities, inviting community spaces, and a wide variety of recreational activities. Mobility adapted units and home health care are also available, assuring residents receive the personalized services they need while maintaining maximum independence.
Location: 401 Essex Street, Beverly (one exit north of Beverly Hospital off of Rt. 128)
Ledgewood Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation: Ledgewood is a 123-bed facility providing advanced, patient centered, physician-directed inpatient rehabilitation services and nursing care. The unique hospital campus location provides for a smooth transition from the hospital as well as immediate access to emergency and acute care services and physicians, when necessary. Ledgewood is a member of the Beverly Hospital integrated healthcare continuum. Location: 87 Herrick Street, Beverly (North Campus of Beverly Hospital)

Beverly Hospital Partial Hospitalization Program: The Partial Hospitalization Program offers special tracks for mental health and addiction/dual diagnosis. Located on the campuses of Beverly Hospital and BayRidge Hospital in Lynn, Partial Hospitalization is an intensive, short-term and high structured treatment program designed to continue gains and to prevent relapse and hospital admission.

Spectrum Adult Day Health: Spectrum Adult Day Health Program, located in Beverly, MA is uniquely designed to accommodate the cognitive changes individuals with memory disorders face as their disease progresses. Spectrum is an attractive and secure physical environment uniquely designed to accommodate cognitive needs and provide social activities that are specifically designed by our trained activities professionals to be “failure-free.” Location: Cummings Center, Beverly MA

Seacoast Nursing and Rehabilitation Center: Seacoast Nursing & Rehabilitation Center is a modern facility offering short-term rehabilitation programs, respite care, complete medical and skilled nursing care. Seacoast Nursing & Rehabilitation Center offers a coordinated multidisciplinary team approach to care, including physician and nursing care, social services, case management, physical, occupational and respiratory therapy, speech therapy, and nutrition and pharmaceutical management. Our caring, highly skilled clinical professionals provide individualized, quality care to meet the needs of each resident. On the same campus as Addison Gilbert Hospital, Gloucester MA
Facilitate Spirituality Groups
The majority of the clinical site placements afford students the opportunity to develop and facilitate Spirituality Groups that are appropriate for those served at their particular site. Students are free to work creatively around spiritual themes that are conducive to discussion and/or activities designed to heighten awareness of spirituality as a source of strength and comfort for those served at this particular site. This is a great opportunity for students to observe and challenge themselves as a group facilitator, while they also experience and gain a deeper understanding of group process and dynamics.

Tea for the Soul / Staff Support
Providing spiritual and emotional support for staff is an important part of the services offered at Beverly Hospital. CPE students are encouraged to assist with identifying the needs as they arise and coordinating or assisting with Tea for the Soul, a program that brings supportive refreshment directly to the units, or other debriefing/supportive initiatives that validate and support the humanity of the staff. Throughout the year, a variety of services and programs are offered for staff, including services around various religious holidays, nurse’s week, remembrance services, etc. CPE students are invited to assist with the creation and coordination of all staff support offerings.

Interdisciplinary rounds / Hospital Committees
Students are encouraged to attend interdisciplinary rounds on their assigned unit at the hospital. These meetings provide a great learning opportunity for students to understand and claim their role as inter-professional collaborators with the other members of the patient’s care team.

Level II students are offered the opportunity to attend or join certain hospital committees, including Ethics and Diversity, and to participate in hospital wide initiatives that promote the core values of inclusiveness, compassion and respect that are shared by all colleagues.

Noon Pause
Preparing and facilitating the fifteen minute interfaith “Noon Pause” in the hospital chapel offers CPE students the opportunity to practice the ways they draw from their own spiritual resources to create and facilitate a refreshing “pause” for visitors and staff that is appropriate to the hospital setting and welcoming to all who might join us.
Holy Family Hospital is New England’s longest running ACPE accredited CPE center, based in a two-campus Community Hospital in Methuen and Haverhill, MA.

We offer four units of CPE each year, two in a semester style and two in an innovative ‘Community CPE style’ which is unique in our region.

The semester style units are 16 weeks each, one in spring and one in fall. They consist of seminar times from 9a to 2p each Tuesday and Wednesday plus 18 hours/week of clinical time.

The two Community CPE units run simultaneously from September to April. The seminar times meet every other Saturday from approximately 9a to 4p, opening up CPE to those with weekday commitments. Additionally, the clinical time can be either undertaken in our hospital, or at any other agreed-location: perhaps another hospital, or a nursing home, a soup kitchen, homeless shelter, correctional facility, college or even congregation. Indeed any combination of hospital or community setting can be agreed upon.

Also unique in the region, each student’s clinical time can be flexibly scheduled to help with a good life-fit.
HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL

Training Topics

Our CPE balances didactic-style teaching on family systems, some psychology theories, relational, cultural and social consideration, with a practical foundation of spiritual caregiving skills, approaches and rubrics. We invite a diversity of students to stand in their own theological traditions, and to connect their understanding of God/The Sacred, with their self-understanding, and then to their approach to providing care for others and themselves.

The Certified Educators share a relational approach to adult education in which a learning alliance is built between educator and adult-learner, and each CPE cohort forms a learning community.

CPE students can experience the interdisciplinary corporate life of the hospital with participation in interdisciplinary forums such as the ethics committee and compassion grand rounds. The hospital has an active chapel community.

What makes this site unique?

As a hospital in the greater Lawrence, MA area, we experience a remarkable degree of diversity in our community. As a community hospital, CPE students can experience a rich blend of intense clinical environments (e.g. Emergency Room, Hospice, Intensive Care, Oncology) and less intense contexts (e.g. medical/surgical, orthopedic, neurological, nursing home with a memory unit). We have a significant focus on adult behavioral health with four dedicated nursing units.

Holy Family Hospital is a Leapfrog Top Hospital – one of less than thirty across the US. We are also a US Health top 100 orthopedic hospital. We welcome CPE students from all traditions.
MCLEAN HOSPITAL

SUPERVISOR: ANGELIKA ZOLLFRANK

Context

The McLean Hospital CPE Center is one of a handful of programs in the country that offers a specialization in Mental Health. Since McLean Hospital is a free-standing psychiatric hospital affiliated with Harvard, the Mental Health CPE program offers a unique setting and learning opportunities in the area of spirituality and mental health.

Training Topics

- The Experience of a Patient; Recovery-Oriented Care
- Spiritual Assessment, Empathy and Attunement
- Overview over the Research regarding Spirituality and Mental Health
- Boundaries
- Legal and Ethical Issues in Psychiatric Care
- Racial Dynamics in Psychiatric Care
- Psychopathology
- Integrating CBT into Spiritual Care
- Introduction to Group Therapy and Psychoeducational Groups
- Suicide and Suicidality
- Self-Care: Expressive Art Therapy
- LGBTQA+ and Mental Health
- Anxiety and Depression
- Role, Goal, Context, Boundaries, Authority
- Psychotic Disorders; Listening Skills and Bias
- Personality Dynamics and Spiritual Experience
- Grief and Loss in Mental Health Chaplaincy
- Addiction Treatment and Dual Diagnosis
- Trauma and Dissociative Disorders
- Spiritual Care in the Age of Black Lives Matter (ongoing curriculum element)
- Helping Styles
Students need to consider that they will encounter persons who are suffering from severe mental illness. Relationships with patients will be more extensive (due to greater length of stay compared to medical hospitals). Deep compassion for persons suffering from psychiatric illness is required. Basic listening and good communication skills are important to be successful in this placement. Self-awareness and willingness to learn about the human mind is key. This is a small hospital serving persons who are acutely and severely mentally ill.

Students will serve and encounter patients on a general adult inpatient unit; two geriatric units; two short-term units where patients are mainly suffering from anxiety and depression; three psychotic disorder units; trauma and dissociative disorder unit, and addiction unit. There are also two residential areas that students will serve, one specializing in treating obsessive-compulsive disorders and the other treating psychotic disorders.
SAINT ANNE'S HOSPITAL

SUPERVISOR: MARIKA HULL

Context
Saint Anne’s Hospital is in Fall River, MA. It is a 240 bed, acute care, community hospital. The patient population is mainly from Fall River and the surrounding communities in southern Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Program Emphasis
The extended programs are offered in the fall and spring. The program is focused on providing opportunities to learn, practice and refresh spiritual care skills that address the ACPE Level I/II Outcomes.

In the context of four settings, students build their skill base and develop insights that help to expand their ability to provide spiritual care:

- the small group classroom setting and peer interaction;
- patient visits including one-to-one and group interactions with patients, patient’s families, and staff;
- instructional presentations by spiritual care providers, content specialists and clinical staff members;
- consultations regarding the student’s individual ministry goals and ongoing ministry practice with the ACPE Educator.
This guide was compiled by Helena Buckman, Rachel Payne, Claire Wolf, and Shelly Rambo.

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